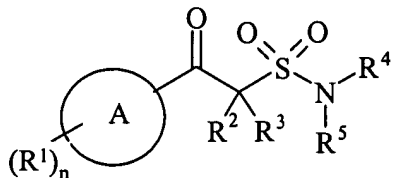


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS****Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of~~ A method for inhibiting 11 $\beta$ HSD1, comprising administering a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein[[:]]

**Ring A** is selected from carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl;

each R<sup>1</sup> is independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>carbamoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylS(O)<sub>a</sub> wherein a is 0 to 2, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>sulphamoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulphonylamino, tri-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)silyloxy, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC<sub>0-4</sub>alkylene-Y-, and heterocyclylC<sub>0-4</sub>alkylene-Y-; wherein R<sup>1</sup> may be optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more R<sup>6</sup> groups ~~selected from R<sup>6</sup>~~; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety, that nitrogen may be optionally substituted ~~by~~ with an R<sup>7</sup> group ~~selected from R<sup>7</sup>~~;

~~n is 0-5; wherein the values of R<sup>1</sup> may be the same or different;~~

**R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup>** are independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, and heterocyclylC<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl; or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together ~~form~~ are C<sub>2-4</sub>alkylene; wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> may be independently optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more R<sup>8</sup> groups ~~selected from R<sup>8</sup>~~; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety, that nitrogen may be optionally substituted ~~by~~ with an R<sup>9</sup> group ~~selected from R<sup>9</sup>~~;

one of  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  is ~~selected from~~  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl and the other is selected from hydrogen ~~or~~ and  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl; wherein  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  may be optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more  $R^{10}$  ~~groups selected from~~  $R^{10}$ ;

$Y$  is selected from  $-S(O)_a-$ ,  $-O-$ ,  $-NR^{12}-$ ,  $-C(O)-$ ,  $-C(O)NR^{13}-$ ,  $-NR^{14}C(O)-$ , and ~~or~~  $-SO_2NR^{15}-$ ; wherein  $a$  is 0 to 2;

$R^{12}$ ,  $R^{13}$ ,  $R^{14}$  and  $R^{15}$  are independently selected from hydrogen, phenyl, and  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^6$  and  $R^8$  are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy,  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{2-4}$ alkenyl,  $C_{2-4}$ alkynyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1-4}$ alkanoyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkanoyloxy,  $N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino$ ,  $N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2amino$ ,  $C_{1-4}alkanoylamino$ ,  $N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl$ ,  $N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2carbamoyl$ ,  $C_{1-4}alkylS(O)_a$  wherein  $a$  is 0 to 2,  $C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl$ ,  $N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl$ ,  $N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2sulphamoyl$ ,  $C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino$ , carbocyclyl, and heterocyclyl; wherein  $R^6$  and  $R^8$  may be independently optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more  $R^{11}$  groups;

$R^{10}$  is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy,  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{2-4}$ alkenyl,  $C_{2-4}$ alkynyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1-4}alkanoyl$ ,  $C_{1-4}alkanoyloxy$ ,  $N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino$ ,  $N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2amino$ ,  $C_{1-4}alkanoylamino$ ,  $N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl$ ,  $N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2carbamoyl$ ,  $C_{1-4}alkylS(O)_a$  wherein  $a$  is 0 to 2,  $C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl$ ,  $N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl$ ,  $N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2sulphamoyl$ , and  $C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino$ ; wherein  $R^{10}$  may be independently optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more  $R^{16}$  groups;

$R^7$  and  $R^9$  are independently selected from  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}alkanoyl$ ,  $C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl$ ,  $C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl$ , carbamoyl,  $N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl$ ,  $N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2carbamoyl$ , benzyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, benzoyl, and phenylsulphonyl;

$R^{11}$  and  $R^{16}$  are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, acetyl, acetoxyl, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino,  $N$ -methyl- $N$ -ethylamino, acetylamino,  $N$ -methylcarbamoyl,  $N$ -ethylcarbamoyl,  $N,N$ -dimethylcarbamoyl,  $N,N$ -diethylcarbamoyl,  $N$ -methyl- $N$ -ethylcarbamoyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphanyl, ethylsulphanyl, mesyl, ethylsulphonyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl,  $N$ -methylsulphamoyl,  $N$ -ethylsulphamoyl,  $N,N$ -dimethylsulphamoyl,  $N,N$ -diethylsulphamoyl, and ~~or~~  $N$ -methyl- $N$ -ethylsulphamoyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

~~in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the inhibition of 11 $\beta$ HSD1.~~

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to claim 1 wherein Ring A is selected from pyridyl, phenyl, thienyl, furyl, pyrazinyl, 1,2,3-thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, cyclohexyl, naphthyl, cyclohexenyl, pyrazolyl, benzothienyl, indolyl, 1,1,3-trioxo-2,3-dihydro-1,2-benzisothiazolyl, 1,3-benzodioxolyl, cyclopentyl, tetrahydropyranyl, 1-oxooctahydropyrido[1,2-a]pyrazinyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthyl, piperidinyl, and benzthiazolyl.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to ~~either of~~ claims 1 ~~or~~ 2 wherein each R<sup>1</sup> is independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, sulphamoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, tri-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)silyloxy, carbocyclyl, and heterocyclylC<sub>0-4</sub>alkylene-Y-; wherein R<sup>1</sup> may be optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more R<sup>6</sup> groups selected from R<sup>6</sup>; wherein

Y is -NR<sup>12</sup>-;

R<sup>12</sup> is hydrogen; and

R<sup>6</sup> is selected from halo, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoylamino, and carbocyclyl.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1, 4 wherein n is 0-2; ~~wherein the values of R<sup>1</sup> may be the same or different.~~

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1, 5 wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen ~~or~~ and C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl[[,]]; or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together ~~form~~ are C<sub>2-6</sub>alkylene.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1, 6 wherein ~~one of R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> is selected from hydrogen and C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl and the other is selected from C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl;~~ wherein R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> ~~may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R<sup>10</sup>; and~~  
——R<sup>10</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy and N,N-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The of a A method of compound of formula (I) (as depicted in claim 1,~~

wherein[[:]]

Ring A is selected from carbocyclyl ~~or and~~ heterocyclyl;

each R<sup>1</sup> is independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, sulphamoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, tri-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)silyloxy, carbocyclyl, and heterocyclylC<sub>0-4</sub>alkylene-Y-; wherein R<sup>1</sup> may be optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more R<sup>6</sup> groups selected from R<sup>6</sup>; wherein:

Y is -NR<sup>12</sup>-;

R<sup>12</sup> is hydrogen; ~~and~~

R<sup>6</sup> is selected from halo, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoylamino, and carbocyclyl;

n is 0-3; ~~wherein the values of R<sup>1</sup> may be the same or different;~~

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen ~~or and~~ C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together ~~form are~~ C<sub>2-6</sub>alkylene;

one of R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> is selected from hydrogen and C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl and the other is ~~selected from~~ C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl; wherein R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> may be optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more R<sup>10</sup> groups selected from R<sup>10</sup>; and

R<sup>10</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy and N,N-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

~~in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the inhibition of 11βHSD1.~~

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A compound of formula (I) as depicted in claim 1~~ selected from:

(4-fluorophenyl)[N-(2-methoxyethyl)-N-(methyl)sulphamoylmethyl]ketone;

(2,4-difluorophenyl)[1-(N,N-diisopropylsulphamoyl)-1methylethyl]ketone;

(2,4-difluorophenyl)(N,N-diisopropylsulphamoylmethyl)ketone;

(thiazol-2-yl)(N,N-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)ketone;

(4-fluorophenyl)[N-(2-isopropoxyethyl)-N-(isopropyl)sulphamoylmethyl]ketone;

(pyrazin-2-yl)(N,N-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)ketone;

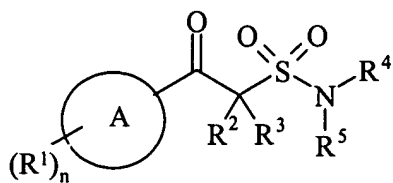
(4-isopropoxyphenyl)(N,N-diisopropylsulphamoylmethyl)ketone;

(3-cyanophenyl)(N,N-diisopropylsulphamoylmethyl)ketone; and

(pyrid-2-yl)(N,N-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)ketone;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (Ia):



(Ia)

wherein[[:]]

**Ring A** is selected from phenyl, pyridyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and furyl;

**each R<sup>1</sup>** is independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>carbamoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylS(O)<sub>a</sub> wherein a is 0 to 2, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>sulphamoyl, and C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulphonylamino; wherein R<sup>1</sup> may be optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more R<sup>6</sup> groups ~~selected from R<sup>6</sup>~~; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety, that nitrogen may be optionally substituted ~~by~~ with an R<sup>7</sup> group ~~selected from R<sup>7</sup>~~;

**n** is 0-3; ~~wherein the values of R<sup>1</sup> may be the same or different;~~

**R<sup>2</sup>** and **R<sup>3</sup>** are independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, and heterocyclylC<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl; wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> may be independently optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more R<sup>8</sup> groups ~~selected from R<sup>8</sup>~~; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety, that nitrogen may be optionally substituted ~~by~~ with an R<sup>9</sup> group selected from ~~R<sup>9</sup>~~;

**R<sup>4</sup>** and **R<sup>5</sup>** are independently ~~selected from C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl~~; wherein R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> may be optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more R<sup>10</sup> groups ~~selected from R<sup>10</sup>~~;

**R<sup>6</sup>** and **R<sup>8</sup>** are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>carbamoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylS(O)<sub>a</sub> wherein a is 0 to 2, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)sulphamoyl,

*N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>sulphamoyl, and C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulphonylamino; wherein R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> may be independently optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more R<sup>11</sup> groups;

R<sup>10</sup> is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-4</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoylamino, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>carbamoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylS(O)<sub>a</sub> wherein a is 0 to 2, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>sulphamoyl, and C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulphonylamino; wherein R<sup>10</sup> may be independently optionally substituted on carbon ~~by~~ with one or more R<sup>16</sup> groups;

R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are independently selected from C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulphonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, *N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)<sub>2</sub>carbamoyl, benzyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, benzoyl, and phenylsulphonyl;

R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>16</sup> are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, acetyl, acetoxyl, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino, acetylamino, *N*-methylcarbamoyl, *N*-ethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-diethylcarbamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylcarbamoyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphanyl, ethylsulphanyl, mesyl, ethylsulphonyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *N*-methylsulphamoyl, *N*-ethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-diethylsulphamoyl, and ~~or~~ *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylsulphamoyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; with the proviso that said compound is not (*N*-methyl-*N*-butylsulphamoylmethyl)(phenyl)ketone; [1-(*N,N*-dimethylsulphamoyl)ethyl](phenyl)ketone; (*N,N*-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)(4-nitrophenyl)ketone; (*N,N*-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)(4-fluoro-2-methylaminophenyl)ketone; (*N,N*-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)(3-methoxy-4-methyl-6-aminophenyl)ketone; (*N,N*-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)(3-methoxy-6-aminophenyl)ketone; (*N,N*-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)(phenyl)ketone; (*N,N*-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)(2-nitro-4-methoxyphenyl)ketone; (*N,N*-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)(2-amino-4-methoxyphenyl)ketone; [1-(*N*-methyl-*N*-butylsulphamoyl)ethyl](phenyl)ketone; or (*N,N*-dimethylsulphamoylmethyl)(thien-2-yl)ketone.

10. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of

~~formula (I) or (Ia), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in either of claims 8 or 9 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.~~

11-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Currently Amended) The use of a method for the treatment of a metabolic syndrome, comprising inhibiting 11 $\beta$ HSD1 according to claim 1 of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1-7 or 13 wherein production of, or producing an, 11 $\beta$ HSD1 inhibitory effect refers to the treatment of metabolic syndrome.

15. (Currently Amended) The use of a method for the treatment of diabetes, obesity, hyperlipidaemia, hyperglycaemia, hyperinsulinemia or hypertension, comprising inhibiting 11 $\beta$ HSD1 according to claim 1 of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1-7 or 13 wherein production of, or producing an, 11 $\beta$ HSD1 inhibitory effect refers to the treatment of diabetes, obesity, hyperlipidaemia, hyperglycaemia, hyperinsulinemia or hypertension, particularly diabetes and obesity.

16. (Currently Amended) The use of a method for the treatment of glaucoma, osteoporosis, tuberculosis, dementia, cognitive disorders or depression, comprising inhibiting 11 $\beta$ HSD1 according to claim 1 of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1-7 or 13 wherein production of, or producing an, 11 $\beta$ HSD1 inhibitory effect refers to the treatment of glaucoma, osteoporosis, tuberculosis, dementia, cognitive disorders or depression.

17. (Cancelled).